



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
PABSEC

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Istanbul, 14 December 2007

FOREWORD

OPENING CEREMONY

The Thirtieth General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Tbilisi on 10-12 December 2007 upon the invitation of the Parliament of Georgia.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Mikheil MACHAVARIANI, Acting Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia, PABSEC Vice-President. The BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office message addressed to the General Assembly was presented by Mr. Kostyantyn Yelisieiev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

PARTICIPATION

The General Assembly was attended by:

1. The Leadership of the Parliament of Georgia.
2. *National delegations* of the Parliaments of: Republic of Albania, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation and Republic of Turkey.
3. *Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Related Bodies:*
 - **BSEC:** the representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office; the Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat.
 - **BSTDB:** the President
 - **ICBSS:** the Alternate Director General
4. *Observers:* Delegations/representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the Senate and the National Assembly of the French Republic, the Assembly of the Western European Union (AWEU), the European Parliament (EP), the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative (CEI PD), the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Community of Independent States (IPACIS), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Interparliamentary Assembly of the Eurasian Economic Community (IPA EurAsEC), and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus-Russia (PAUBR).
5. *Guests:* the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IPAO), the WHO, BSEC-URTA, BSUN, BSUF and the Marmara Foundation.

THE PLENARY SESSION

1. *General debate.*

The topic of the General Debate was “Contribution of Energy Security to Economic Growth and Overall Security in the Black Sea Region”.

The heads and members of the National PABSEC Delegations, Senate of the French Republic, representatives of the IPA EurAsEC and the PAUBR, took part in the General Debate, referring to the experience of their countries and organisations within the context of energy security.

The participants stated that currently the relevance of these issues on the political and economic agenda of the Black Sea region, as well as the necessity to fully utilise the transit potential of the area are obvious.

They mentioned the strategic importance of the Black Sea region as a production and transmission area, as well as the need for diversification and security of energy supply not only of the energy transport corridors, but also of the energy sources. Due to the current environmental situation in the Black Sea region, the speakers urged the BSEC Member States to develop and use friendly environmental technologies in the field of energy, and to enhance the cooperation in order to fight against the climate change.

During the debate, it was launched the idea of creating a common data base in the field of energy strategy. The speakers stressed that due to the fact that the current resources are limited, it is vital to think about the future and through collaboration and cooperation, to find new sources of energy. The Russian PABSEC Delegation expressed its readiness to prepare a report on this issue.

The participants also referred to the adoption by the EP on 26 September 2007 of the Resolution “Towards a Common European Foreign Policy on Energy”, conceived as a contribution to the guaranteeing energy security for the whole of the EU and ensuring the sustainability at international level.

The speakers highlighted that given the energy interdependence of all Black Sea countries and their key role in the transit and supply of goods, regional cooperation in the field of energy has become crucial during the recent years. The growing significance of the region in the world energy market must be properly assessed and realized by all concerned parties in order to create reliable and effective coordination activities in the energy sector. The participants welcomed the initiative by the Ukrainian BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office to organize a Meeting of the Ministers of Energy in Kyiv in March 2008.

2. *Documents adopted by the Plenary Session:*

- a) Recommendation 98/2007 on “The Priorities of Cooperation between the BSEC Member States in the field of Energy: Oil and Gas spheres” *(Doc. GA30/EC29/REC98/07)*
- b) Recommendation 99/2007 on “Global Climate Change: Consequences for the BSEC States” *(Doc. GA30/LC30/REC99/07)*
- c) Recommendation 100/2007 on "Improvement of Quality of Life in the BSEC Member States" *(Doc. GA30/CC29/REC100/07)*